

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01487 021427Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 EB-07
FAA-00 DOTE-00 CAB-02 COME-00 EURE-00 IO-13
TRSE-00 /081 W
-----021439Z 036892 /40

O 021407Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4680
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1487

DEPT FOR EUR/CE

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, UK
SUBJECT: CIVAIR- US-BERLIN SERVICES VIA LONDON

REF: US-BERLIN SERVICES VIA LONDON

1. WE DO NOT LIKE ANYTHING IN THE UK DEL (DOT) PROPOSAL REGARDING BERLIN AIR SERVICES. THRE ARE SEVERAL ISSUES AT STAKE. FIRST OF ALL, FLIGHTS BETWEEN BERLIN AND INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS HAVE BEEN A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE BETWEEN THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES AND THE SOVIET UNION FOR AT LEAST 16 YEARS. THE SOVIETS HAVE STRENUOUSLY MAINTAINED THAT WESTERN CARRIERS MAY ONLY OPERATE FLIGHTS FROM BERLIN TO DESTINATIONS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.WE HAVE MAINTAINED WITH EQUAL VIGOR AND SOUNDER JUSTIFICATION, THATALLIED FLAG CARRIERS MAY FLY BETWEEN BERLIN AND ANY OTHER DESTINATION WITHOUT ANY RESTRICTIONS WHATSOEVER. SOVIETS OBVIOUSLY WANT TO CURTAIL THE SCOPE OF BERLIN'S AIR SERVICES WHICH ARE VITAL TO THE SURVIVAL OF THE
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PAGE 02 USBERL 01487 021427Z

CITY. WE IN TURN HAVE SOUGHT JUST THE OPPOSITE AND HAVE BACKED UP OUR WORDS WITH ACTIONS. SPECIFICALLY IN 1964, WHEN PANAMERICAN ANNOUNCED ITS DIRECT SERVICE FROM BERLIN TO NEW YORK AND RETURN,THE SOVIETS LAUNCHED AN EXTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN INCLUDING PUBLIC ATTACKS TO ATTEMPT TO FORESTALL THIS SERVICE. IT WAS SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED AND SET A STANDARD FOR

NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS TO AND FROM BERLIN, WHICH NOW NUMBER ABOUT 8,000 PER YEAR (PRIMARILY CHARTERS).

2. A SECOND ISSUE IS THE CONSTANCY OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALLIED COMMITMENT TO BERLIN. IT WOULD BE REPUGNANT, IN OUR VIEW, FOR THE UNITED STATES TO SET ITS HAND TO A DOCUMENT WHICH EVEN IMPLIES THERE IS ANY DISPOSITION ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONSIDER A CHANGE OF THE STATUS OF BERLIN. SUCH A FORMULATION WOULD FLY IN THE FACE OF RECENT USG PUBLIC AFFIRMATIONS OF OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CITY, SUCH AS THAT OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE DURING HIS VISIT HERE IN JANUARY ("THE UNITED STATES STANDS BY ITS COMMITMENT TO USE WHATEVER MEANS MAY BE NECESSARY TO RESIST ANY ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE THE FREEDOM OF THIS CITY"), AND THE FOUR POWER SUMMIT DECLARATION ON BERLIN IN MAY.

3. IN SHORT, THIS IS NOT A TECHNICAL MATTER, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF IN CIVIL NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE AVOIDED, WHATEVER THE CONTEXT.

GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BERLIN AIR ACCESS, AIR ROUTES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL01487
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770196-0905
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705102/aaaadklo.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b8d95087-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: EAIR, UK, US, WB
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